Queer Poetry Slam

The Planning Committee is excited to host a Queer Poetry Slam as part of the Big 12 LGBTQIA & Allies Summit this year. Participants will have the opportunity to workshop their piece(s) on Saturday, March 7 during Educational Session Rotation 2 (11:00 a.m.) with guest artist and emcee Regie Cabico. Preliminary and semifinal rounds will take place on Saturday evening. All Summit attendees are invited to the Queer Poetry Slam. Top performers selected on Saturday evening will advance to the finals round during the closing of the Summit on Sunday.

Slam participants may be students, faculty, staff, or community partners. There are no additional fees to participate in the Slam, but individuals must be registered for the Summit. Regular registration for the Summit is available for $35 through February 11. Late registration is $45 beginning February 12.

Questions about the Queer Poetry Slam should be sent to campuslife.lgbtqia@ttu.edu.

Guest Artist and Emcee

Regie Cabico (he/him/his), B.A., is one of the country's leading innovators and pioneers of The Poetry Slam having won 3 National Top Prizes including the Nuyorican Poets Cafe Grand Slam. He produces Capturing Fire: An International Queer Poetry Slam. In August, he participated in the 2019 Asian American Literature Festival hosted by the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center.

How Do I Sign-Up?

After registering for the Summit, you sign-up for the Queer Poetry Slam here. Participants must sign up by February 20.
Participant Rules

1. **Poems must be original works performed by the author.** Sampled lines or lyrics are permissible.

2. No musical accompaniment; however, beat boxing or acapella singing by the author is permitted

3. **No costumes or props.** Taking off clothes, grabbing a necklace for emphasis would be considered a prop violation. Holding a microphone or mic stand is permissible.

4. 3 minutes or less. Poems will be timed and there is a 20 second grace period. Time starts when the poet makes verbal or non-verbal contact with the audience. There will be a .5 deduction every 10 seconds a poet goes overtime.

5. Poems do not have to have "trans" or "queer" content but we hope that you will express queer or trans experience since this is the place to share your queer survival, experience & bliss.

6. Hate poetry against a group of people i.e. queerphobic, misogynistic, transphobic, racist, etc... will not be tolerated.

7. Poems do not need to be memorized. Poets will not be penalized for reading off the page. We discourage reading from a cell phone or electronic device, but it is permissible.

8. Poets will draw a number to determine order in preliminary, semifinal and finals rounds.

9. Poets cannot repeat the same poem between rounds.

10. The number of poets that get eliminated or proceed to the finals will be based upon the number of poets signing up.

11. **Register for the slam deadline by February 20.** Registration is limited and poets will be invited to the slam by order in which they registered.

12. Judges scores are based on a rubric and noted on a spread sheet. Score totals will not be announced. Poets will receive their score sheets at the end of each slam bout.

13. The top scoring poets in preliminary, semifinal and final rounds may be asked to write a poem on the spot to break a tie or determine finalists or the slam champion.

14. Please show up 30 minutes before the slam starts or you risk forfeiting your slot to a poet on the waiting list. Otherwise you will be eliminated. All registrants will receive contact information of the bout manager for questions and to check in at the slam event.

15. **2 person or group pieces will not be permissible to compete;** However, we are open to having group slam pieces presented throughout the slam. Please check in with the bout manager.